

Appl. No. : 09/875,401
Filed : June 5, 2001

REMARKS

By this paper, Applicants have amended Claims 1 and 5-8. Thus, claims 1-3 and 5-9 remain pending and presented for examination.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner objected to Claim 6 as being dependent upon a rejected independent claim. By this amendment, Applicant has amended Claim 1 to include certain limitations from Claim 6 and Claim 5. Claims 5 and 6 have been amended for consistency with amended Claim 1. Claims 7 and 8, which previously depended from Claim 5, have been amended to depend from amended Claim 1.

Applicant respectfully submits that no new issues have been raised by this amendment, and requests that the Examiner enter these amendments.

As Claim 1 has been amended to include certain limitations from Claim 6 and Claim 5, Applicant respectfully submits that Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance. As Claims 2, 3, and 5-9 depend from amended Claim 1, Applicant respectfully submits that Claims 2, 3 and 5-9 are now in condition for allowance. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the outstanding rejections and allowance of pending Claims 1-3 and 5-9.

If there are any remaining issues which can be resolved by a telephone conference, the Examiner is respectfully requested to initiate the same with Applicant's attorney. Please charge any additional fees, including any fees for additional extension of time, or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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